

Appl. No. 09/841,588
Amdt. dated June 13, 2005
Reply to Office action of March 11, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-5 and 8-18 as shown in the listing of claims below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1-5. (cancelled)

6. (original) A method of providing a link quality indicator signal for a communication system, the communication system having a local transceiver including a plurality of communication status signals, the method comprising:

- (a) generating a link quality indicator signal at a first signal level;
- (b) generating the link quality indicator signal at a second signal level if an auto-negotiation complete status signal indicates a local transceiver auto-negotiation process is complete;
- (c) continuing from step (a) if the auto-negotiation complete status signal indicates the local transceiver auto-negotiation process is not complete;
- (d) continuing from step (b) if a link status signal indicates that a network channel has not been established;
- (e) generating the link quality indicator signal at the first signal level and continuing from step d if a local receiver status signal indicates that the local transceiver is not functional;
- (f) generating the link quality indicator signal at the second signal level if the local receiver status signal indicates that the local transceiver is functional;
- (g) generating the link quality indicator signal at the first signal level for a first period of time and generating a link quality indicator signal at the second signal level for the first period of time if a receive error status signal indicates that the local transceiver has a reception error;

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- (h) generating the link quality indicator signal at the first signal level for a first period of time and generating the link quality indicator signal at the second signal level for the first period of time if a receive error status signal indicates that the local transceiver has a reception error; and
- (i) generating the link quality indicator signal at the first signal level for a second period of time and generating the link quality indicator signal at the second signal level for the second period of time if a MSE status signal indicates that a MSE of the local transceiver exceeds a SNR threshold status signal.

7. (original) The method of claim 6 wherein the first period of time is greater than the second period of time.

8-18. (cancelled).